

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 INR-10 IO-13 JUSE-00 NSAE-00  
CTME-00 SNM-05 TRSE-00 USIA-06 NSC-05 OES-07  
OMB-01 AGRE-00 AID-05 /067 W  
-----126977 061833Z /45

P 061752Z MAR 78  
FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO  
TO DEAHQS WASHDC PRIORITY  
SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8740  
CIA WASHDC PRIORITY  
ALL CONSULATES MEXICO BY POUCH

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DEA MEX 0212  
DEAHQS FOR ENOL, EN, IG

EO:11652:N/A  
TAGS:SNAR/MX  
SUBJECT: GOM ERADICATION AND INTERDICTION ACTIVITY REPORT,  
FEBRUARY 20, 1978 THROUGH FEBRUARY 26, 1978 (GFTA-75-8001)  
REPORT NO. 6, PHASE I-78.

1. GOM ERADICATION AND INTERDICTION STATISTICS FOR THE  
PAST WEEK ARE OUTLINED BELOW:

ERADICATION FEB 20/FEB 26

U.S. ZONE #S: I II III TOTAL  
MEXICAN ZONE #S: 5-9 3-4 1-2

A. POPPY FIELDS 922 26 81 1029  
(CUMULATIVE TOTAL FOR YEAR - 7,847)

B. HECTARES 63.14 .81 1.86 65.81  
(CUMULATIVE TOTAL FOR YEAR - 674.4)

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C. MARIHUANA 33 1 91 125  
(CUMULATIVE TOTAL FOR YEAR - 942)  
D. HECTARES 1.82 1.00 2.73 5.55  
(CUMULATIVE TOTAL FOR YEAR - 209.69)  
E. MIXED FIELDS 13 0 0 13  
(CUMULATIVE TOTAL FOR YEAR - 71)  
F. HECTARES .70 0 0 .70

(CUMULATIVE TOTAL FOR YEAR - 7.02)

INTERDICTION FEB 20/FEB 26

	THIS PERIOD	CUMULATIVE TOTAL
A. KG. HEROIN	.090	29.177
B. KG. OPIUM	7.725	25.185
C. KG. POPPY SEEDS	.400	8.250
D. HEROIN LABS	1	5
E. KG. COCAINE	1.000	14.057
F. KG. MARIHUANA	6,077	125,269
G. KG. MARIHUANA SEEDS	12.03	572.02
H. KG. HASHISH	50	52.65
I. LITERS HASHISH OIL	.250	.250
J. D.U. DANGEROUS DRUGS	5,700	999,859
K. ARRESTS-MEXICAN	98	853
L. ARRESTS-U.S.A.	8	30
M. ARRESTS-OTHER	2	10
N. VEHICLES	12	145
O. WEAPONS	40	373
P. AMMUNITION	28	18,973
Q. PESOS	0	157,559
R. DOLLARS	500	9,520
S. AIRCRAFT	5	17

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2. CUMULATIVE ERADICATION FIGURES FOR THE FIRST EIGHT WEEKS OF 1978 HAVE BEEN COMPARED WITH SIMILAR FIGURES FOR 1977. 7,847 POPPY FIELDS HAVE BEEN DESTROYED THIS YEAR AS COMPARED WITH 15,012 POPPY FIELDS DESTROYED BY THIS TIME LAST YEAR, A DECREASE OF 48. 674 HECTARES OF POPPIES HAVE BEEN DESTROYED THIS YEAR AS COMPARED WITH 3,224 HECTARES DESTROYED LAST YEAR, A DECREASE OF 79. SIMILAR DECREASES HAVE BEEN NOTED AND DISCUSSED IN PREVIOUS MESSAGES.

3. THIS YEAR'S SPECIAL RECONNAISSANCE PROGRAM ENDED ON FEBRUARY 28, 1978, FIVE WEEKS AFTER IT BEGAN ON JANUARY 25, 1978. THE PROGRAM WAS ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED TO LAST TWO WEEKS. DURING THE FIFTH WEEK ONLY THE SOUTHERN GROUP WAS STILL ACTIVE. THEY WERE STATIONED IN TUXTLA GUTIERREZ, CIUDAD DEL CARMEN, AND MERIDA.

4. A TOTAL OF 274 FLIGHTS WERE REPORTED BY THE RECONNAISSANCE PROGRAM. DEA PARTICIPATED IN 189 (69) OF THOSE FLIGHTS. DEA HAS ALSO PARTICIPATED IN A LIMITED NUMBER OF RECONNAISSANCE, ERADICATION, AND SUPPORT FLIGHTS IN THE ONGOING ERADICATION CAMPAIGN.

5. RECONNAISSANCE OF 230 SECTORS WAS REPORTED TO DEA DURING THE RECONNAISSANCE PROGRAM. (ADDITIONAL SECTORS MAY HAVE BEEN COVERED BUT NOT INCLUDED IN THE REPORTS RECEIVED.) POPPY FIELDS WERE LOCATED IN 52 SECTORS, ONE OF WHICH WAS OUTSIDE U.S. ZONES I, II, AND III (MEXICAN ZONES 1,2,3,4, AND 6). NO POPPY FIELDS WERE LOCATED IN THE OTHER 169 COMPLETED SECTORS. 9 SECTORS WERE PARTIALLY COMPLETED WITH NEGATIVE RESULTS.

6. NEGATIVE SECTORS WHICH HAVE NOT BEEN PREVIOUSLY REPORTED ARE LISTED BELOW:

ZONE III - SECTOR 311  
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OUTSIDE ZONES - SECTORS 314,321,322,323,324,325,326,327,

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328,329,330,331,332,335,336,337,338,339,340,341,342,343,  
344.

PARTIALLY COMPLETED SECTORS:  
ZONE I - SECTORS 285,292,296.

OUTSIDE ZONES - SECTORS 132,150,242,313,316,333.

7. ADDITIONAL POPPY FIELDS HAVE BEEN LOCATED IN SEVERAL PREVIOUSLY REPORTED SECTORS. THAT INFORMATION IS SUMMARIZED BELOW:

ZONE	SECTOR	NO. OF FIELDS
I	69	23
	84	24
	85	99
	101	39
	103	12
II	171	15
	172	1
III	249	28

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252	25
253	20

(NONE) 317 60

SECTOR 156 IN ZONE II WAS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED AS NEGATIVE. A MORE RECENT FLIGHT LOCATED 6 POPPY FIELDS IN THAT SECTOR. IT SHOULD ALSO BE NOTED THAT A TOTAL OF 62 POPPY FIELDS HAVE NOW BEEN LOCATED IN SECTOR 317 WHICH IS IN THE SOUTHERN TIP OF CHIAPAS.

8. THE ABOVE LIST DOES NOT REFLECT THE ENTIRETY OF THIS WEEK'S RECONNAISSANCE AND ERADICATION EFFORTS. DETAILED INFORMATION AS TO THE LOCATION OF ALL FIELDS LOCATED AND SPRAYED BY THE GOM IS NOT YET IN POSSESSION OF THE MCRO.

9. THE GOM PROVIDED THE EMBASSY WITH A COPY OF ONE OF ITS MESSAGES WHICH CRITIQUED THE SPECIAL RECONNAISSANCE PROGRAM AND NOTED THAT: (A) BY FEBRUARY 8, 1978 21 PERCENT OF THE AIRCRAFT INVOLVED IN THE RECONNAISSANCE PROGRAM HAD EXPERIENCED MECHANICAL MALFUNCTION; (B) MORE REALISTIC ALLOWANCES FOR ADVERSE WEATHER CONDITIONS, MECHANICAL TROUBLE AND COMMUNICATIONS PROBLEMS SHOULD HAVE BEEN MADE IN PLANNING THE PROGRAM; AND (C) THE RECONNAISSANCE PROGRAM RESULTED IN A REDUCTION OF MONEY, EQUIPMENT, AND PERSONNEL AVAILABLE TO THE PERMANENT ERADICATION CAMPAIGN.

10. A GOM FLIGHT HOUR SUMMARY FOR JANUARY 1978 REVEALS THE ALLOCATION OF RESOURCES WHICH IS OUTLINED BELOW. A SIMILAR SUMMARY FOR FEBRUARY 1978 HAS NOT YET BEEN RECEIVED. (IT SHOULD BE KEPT IN MIND THAT THE SPECIAL RECONNAISSANCE PROGRAM BEGAN ON JANUARY 25, 1978.)

PURPOSE FLIGHT HOURS PERCENTAGE  
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TRANSPORTATION	539	23.2 PERCENT
ERADICATION	500	21.5 PERCENT
SUPPORT	494	21.3 PERCENT
RECONNAISSANCE	541	23.3 PERCENT
VERIFICATION	211	9.1 PERCENT
OTHER	36	1.6 PERCENT
TOTAL	2,321	100 PERCENT

11. ON FEBRUARY 28, 1978 HELICOPTER XC-BEB WAS FLYING A SUPPORT MISSION NORTHEAST OF CULIACAN IN ZONE I, SECTOR 80 WHEN IT WAS FIRED UPON FROM THE GROUND AND HIT. IT MADE AN EMERGENCY LANDING AS IS ROUTINE UNDER SUCH CIRCUMSTANCES. THERE WERE NO DEA PERSONNEL ON BOARD. NO GOM PERSONNEL WERE INJURED. HELICOPTERS XC-BEK AND XC-GAC TRANSPORTED ARMY TROOPS INTO THE AREA. XC-BEK WAS FIRED UPON AT THAT TIME. TWO SUSPECTS WERE SUBSEQUENTLY KILLED BY THE ARMY, AND TWO OTHERS WERE ARRESTED.

12. THE GOM COORDINATOR STATIONED IN CHILPANCINGO ALSO REPORTED HOSTILE ACTION AGAINST TWO BELL 206-B SPRAY/SUPPORT SHIPS ON SAME DATE. THAT ACTION OCCURRED AS THE TWO SHIPS WERE LIFTING OFF A RECHARGE POINT IN THE EL TEJON AREA (ZONE III, SECTOR 252). THE PILOTS REPORTED THAT TWO SUSPECTS IN A WOODED AREA OPENED FIRE WITH SHOULDER TYPE WEAPONS. NEITHER SHIP WAS HIT. A BELL 212 HELICOPTER TRANSPORTING 10 MFJP AGENTS TO AN UNRELATED GROUND ACTION IN THE SECTOR RESPONDED TO THE DISTRESS CALLS FROM THE SHIPS TAKING GROUND FIRE. THE FIELD REPORT INDICATES ONE SUSPECT WAS KILLED AND THE OTHER ESCAPED.

13. AFTER COMPLETING THE SPECIAL RECONNAISSANCE PROGRAM IN THE NORTH, DEA AGENTS FROM THE NORTHERN GROUP REPORTED TO THE ZONE I AND II BASES IN CULIACAN AND GUADALAJARA AND STARTED FLYING AS OBSERVERS IN THE ERADICATION CAMPAIGN. SINCE THE COMPLETION OF THE RECONNAISSANCE PROGRAM IN THE

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SOUTH, HOWEVER, THE GOM HAS TAKEN THE POSITION THAT DEA INVOLVEMENT IN THE ERADICATION CAMPAIGN WILL END, UNLESS DEA AGENTS CONTINUE TO PARTICIPATE AS TRAINEES FOR A LIMITED TIME PERIOD. EMBASSY REPORTING ON THIS SUBJECT IS CONTAINED IN MEXICO 3518.

ACTING RD SAUCEDO; LUCEY

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## Message Attributes

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**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
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**To:** DEA STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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